

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-12 ADP-00 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 ACDA-19 NIC-01 EB-11 MBFR-03 GAC-01 TRSE-00

OMB-01 RSR-01 /142 W

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R 161354 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4514

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION BERLIN

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 05535

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, WB, GE, GW, UR, UN

SUBJECT: THE FRG- GDR RELATIONSHIP AND UN ENTRY: THE
VIEW FROM BONN

1. PRESS COMMENTATORS IN THE FRG AND OUR SOURCES IN
BONN SEE INCREASING EVIDENCE THAT THE GDR WILL NOT MAIN-
TAIN THE " JUNKTIM" BETWEEN FINAL ACTION ON ITS APPLICA-
TION FOR UN MEMBERSHIP AND ITS PUTTING INTO FORCE THE
GENERAL RELATIONS TREATY (GRT) BETWEEN THE FRG AND GDR.
SPECIAL ATTENTION IS BEING PAID TO: (A) RECENT MENTION
OF THIS SUBJECT IN " NEUES DEUTSCHLAND", ESPECIALLY THE
LATTER' S SHARP REACTION TO REPORTS IN THE " FRANKFURTER
ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG" DESCRIBING FRG FEARS THAT THE GDR
WOULD DRAG OUT ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE GRT (BERLIN 560),
AND (B) THE DECISION TO REPRINT THE " BERLINER MORGENPOST"
INTERVIEW WITH CHANCELLERY STATE SECRETARY HORST GRABERT
(BERLIN 601).

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2. FEDERAL PRESS SPOKESMAN VON WECHMAR CALLED THE EAST GERMAN PAPER'S REPRINTING THE GRABERT INTERVIEW " MOST INTERESTING AND WITHOUT PRECEDENT" DURING A PRESS CONFERENCE IN BONN ON APRIL 6. ALTHOUGH VON WECHMAR DECLINED TO VIEW THE DEVELOPMENT AS AN INDICATION THAT FRG- GDR RELATIONS WERE ABOUT TO IMPROVE, PRESS COMMENTATORS HAVE BEEN OF THE VIEW THAT IT DOES HAVE SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE COMING PHASE OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO GERMAN STATES. " NEUES DEUTSCHLAND'S" ACTION IS SEEN AS BEING THE RESULT OF SOVIET PRESSURE ON THE GDR TO MAKE CLEAR THAT THERE WOULD BE NO DELAY IN ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE GRT. MOST SIGNIFICANCE IS BEING ATTACHED TO THE FACT THAT THE GDR REPRINTED GRABERT'S DENIAL THAT THERE WAS A LINKAGE BETWEEN THE TWO STEPS AND HIS VIEW THAT THE GDR DID NOT INTEND TO DRAG OUT ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE GRT (PARA 2, BERLIN 610). THIS IS BEING SEEN AS INDIRECT ACCEPTANCE BY THE GDR OF THE FACT THAT SUCH A LINKAGE WILL NOT BE MAINTAINED. THE VIEW OF FRG COMMENTATORS SEEMS TO BE THAT THE SOVIETS BELIEVE THEIR BROADER INTERESTS WILL BE SERVED BY HAVING THE GRT AND UN ENTRY OUT OF THE WAY QUICKLY AND THAT THEY WILL NOT ALLOW THE GDR TO STAND IN THE WAY.

3. ACCORDING TO ONE RELIABLE SOURCE, OFFICIALS OF THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN BONN ARE MAKING NO ATTEMPT TO COVER THEIR CRITICISM OF EAST GERMAN ATTEMPTS TO STIR UP TROUBLE IN RELATIONS WITH THE FRG. SPECIAL MENTION IS BEING MADE OF SOVIET DISPLEASURE WITH THE LAW ON ACTIVITIES OF JOURNALISTS. THE IMPRESSION BEING GIVEN IS THAT THE SOVIETS WILL NOT ALLOW THE EAST GERMANS TO USE SUCH MEASURES TO INTERRUPT THE SOVIET TIME-TABLE FOR CONTINUATION OF ITS OWN WESTPOLITIK, BOTH BILATERALLY WITH THE FRG AND MULTILATERALLY IN SUCH FORUMS AS CSCE AND MBFR.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 05535

4. OUR FONOFF CONTACTS ARE MORE CAUTIOUS IN THEIR ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION. THEY REPLY TO SUCH EVIDENCE BY SAYING THAT THEY WILL NOT KNOW IF THE GDR IS GOING TO MAINTAIN ITS "JUNKTIM" UNTIL THE MATTER IS RAISED AGAIN AT THE GRABERT-KOHL MEETING ON APRIL 26. AT THE SAME TIME, HOWEVER, THEY ARE MAKING CLEAR THAT, FOR THE MOMENT AT LEAST, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WILL NOT ACCEPT SUCH A LINKAGE. EARLIER IN THE PROCESS, SOME THOUGHT WAS BEING GIVEN TO AGREEING TO AN EXCHANGE OF LETTERS AT THE TIME OF ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE GRT, WHEREBY THE FRG WOULD GIVE ASSURANCES OF THE WESTERN INTENTION TO VOTE IN FAVOR OF GDR MEMBERSHIP IN THE UN. DEPENDING ON THE RESULTS OF THE APRIL 26 MEETING, THIS PROJECT MAY BE AGAIN RESURRECTED, BUT AT THE MOMENT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SEEMS TO BE HOLDING FIRM. IT IS IN FACT THINKING OF ESTABLISHING A TIE OF ITS OWN, NAMELY NO ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE GRT UNTIL SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
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FRG MISSION IN EAST BERLIN.

HILLENBRAND

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